

REMARKS

Applicant acknowledges the allowability of claims 3-4, 6-7, 10, 15-16, 18-19, 22, and 24. In response, Applicant amends the claims to place all allowable claims in independent form. In particular:

- Claims 1, 13, and 25 are amended to include the limitation of allowed dependent claims 3, 15, and 29;
- New independent claims 30, 40, 41, and 51 recite the limitations of allowed claims 4, 6, 7, and 10 respectively;
- New independent claims 52, 62, 63, and 72 recite the limitations of allowed claims 16, 18, 19, and 22 respectively.

All claims dependent on claims 1 and 13 have been cancelled. Dependent claims 27 and 29 have been cancelled because their limitations are now in claim 25, from which they originally depended.

Applicant submits new dependent claims 31-39 and 42-50. These claims, which depend on claims 30 and 41 respectively, correspond to original dependent claims 2-12, but with those dependent claims reciting superfluous limitations having been deleted.

Applicant further submits new dependent claims 53-61 and 64-71, which depend on claims 52 and 63 respectively. These correspond to original dependent claims 14-24, but with those dependent claims reciting superfluous limitations having been deleted.

Applicant's amendments are made only for expediency, to obtain at least some of the patent claims to which Applicant is entitled. Accordingly, the foregoing amendments are not to be construed as an admission that Applicant regards the original claims as unpatentable, or that Applicant agrees with the Examiner's position.

Now pending in this application are claims 1, 13, 25-26, 28, and 30-72. Of these, claims 1, 13, 25, 30, 40, 41, 51, 52, 63, 63, and 72 are independent. All claims recite allowable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant looks forward to a notice of allowance.

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Please charge excess claim fees and any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 07072-946001.

Respectfully submitted,

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Faustino A. Lichauco
Reg. No. 41,942

Fish & Richardson P.C.
225 Franklin Street
Boston, MA 02110
Telephone: (617) 542-5070
Facsimile: (617) 542-8906